



# MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

060 – ANIMALS

**GENERAL ORDER:** 2023-65  
**ISSUED:** December 27, 2023

**EFFECTIVE:** December 27, 2023

**REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:**  
Assistant Chief Steven Johnson  
**DATE:** November 10, 2023

**ACTION:** Amends General Order 2023-01 (January 5, 2023)

**WILEAG STANDARD(S):** 11.2.1

### ROLL CALL VERSION

Contains only changes to current policy.  
For complete version of SOP, see SharePoint.

#### 060.05 ABANDONED OR STRAY ANIMALS

##### B. MILWAUKEE AREA DOMESTIC ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION (MADACC)

##### 5. MADACC Closed

##### c. Drop-Off Procedure:

2. For animals received due to safekeeping incidents (e.g., eviction, cruelty, or neglect), the above procedure is followed; however, ~~a blue-colored form titled the *Police Request for Services*~~ must also be completed and left in the provided repository. These forms are located near the telephone.

#### 060.10 ABANDONED / SAFEKEEPING / UNWANTED ANIMALS

##### A. ABANDONED ANIMALS

1. Officers that seize an animal for abandonment / cruelty reasons or in the case of an emergency where the animal will have no care (e.g., a fire or the owner is arrested or hospitalized and the person does not/is unable to consent to safekeeping the animal as listed in subsection B below) shall convey the animal to MADACC and complete the MADACC *Police Request for Services* form.

**Note:** Prior to seizing the animal, the officer shall reference the *MADACC Law Enforcement Animal Intake Form* that is located in the N: drive Forms folder.

#### 060.20 ANIMAL BITES

- A. Animal bites require investigation as to the type of animal and ownership for Health Department follow-up. Quarantine procedures as specified in [Chapter 78](#) of the city ordinances (usually for a period of 10-44 days) are necessary for observation purposes and possible medical treatment of the victim. All animal bites must be reported and information is to be documented on a *Vicious Animal Report* (form PV-1). The original shall be sent interdepartmentally to the Department of Neighborhood Services - Lake

Tower (4001 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. - 2nd floor) along with a faxed copy. A copy of the report shall be sent to the Open Records Division.

- C. If an animal bites a human or scratches a human to the extent that the skin has been broken, the officer shall seize the animal for rabies observation and convey it to MADACC. Prior to seizing the animal, the officer shall reference the *MADACC Law Enforcement Animal Intake Form* that is located in the N: drive Forms folder.

## 060.25 VICIOUS ANIMALS

### C. CONTROLLING AN ANIMAL WITH LESS THAN DEADLY FORCE

1. Members should consider utilizing means other than deadly force in all circumstances in which it is practical to do so and there is not an imminent threat of great bodily harm. Such alternate means may include, but not limited to, requesting the assistance of MADACC or utilizing equipment such as a capture pole, fire extinguisher, and baton, oleoresin capsicum (OC) or ~~electronic control device (ECD)~~ Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW).
3. If the options in subsection 2 do not appear effective, members may use the following for both canines or other animals:
  - b. ~~An electronic control device (ECD)~~ A CEW may be used on an animal to create a temporary incapacitation in order to restrain and control with a snare. The ~~ECD~~ CEW and OC are less lethal options that can be used in situations where the animal is not deemed an imminent threat to the officer or the public.
  - c. During active deployment of the ~~ECD~~ CEW, the target area for use on an animal is the profile of the body which appears to provide the most muscle mass. If a ~~ECD~~ CEW is used on a stray animal and the probe becomes firmly embedded in a sensitive or potentially deadly part of the animal and the member is unable to effectively remove it, members shall follow the procedures in SOP 060.25(E).
  - d. If active or multiple ~~ECD~~ CEW deployment proves to be ineffective against the animal, officer(s) should reassess the force options available to them and apply the appropriate level of force needed to control the animal and protect the public or officers.
  - e. Deployment of the ~~ECD~~ CEW on an animal should be reported like any other use of force.

**Note: Members shall advise MADACC if they use a capture pole, baton, oleoresin capsicum (OC), ~~electronic control device (ECD)~~ CEW, or any other type of force on the animal so MADACC can convey this information to the person receiving or caring for the animal. Members shall include this information on the blue colored form titled *Police Request for Services* if the animal is dropped off when MADACC is closed.**

**060.30 SICK, INJURED, OR DEAD ANIMALS**

## A. DOMESTIC ANIMALS

2. Sick and injured animals that are owned cannot be accepted for treatment at MADACC, and the officer shall refer the owner to contact a veterinarian. If an owned sick or injured animal is in such condition that euthanasia is the only option for the animal, the officer may refer the owner to take the animal to MADACC during normal business hours. If MADACC is closed, the officer may refer the owner to ~~Mayfair Animal Hospital at 11619 W. North Av. Wauwatosa, WI (phone 414-897-8840)~~ or the VCA Milwaukee Emergency Center for Animals at 3670 S. 108<sup>th</sup> St. Greenfield, WI (phone 414-543-7387).

## B. WILD ANIMALS

Sick or injured wild animals shall be handled by the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of the Wisconsin Humane Society (414-431-6204). They should also be contacted whenever wild animals present a hazardous situation (e.g., trapped inside a residence). The normal business hours for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center are Monday through Sunday ~~8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.~~ 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. After business hours, callers may be referred to the Wisconsin Humane Society website ([www.wihumane.org/wildlife](http://www.wihumane.org/wildlife)), which offers tips on dealing with wildlife situations.

**060.45 ANIMAL CRUELTY / INSTIGATING FIGHTS BETWEEN ANIMALS INVESTIGATIONS**

- B. Members shall notify their shift commander regarding any felony investigation related to [Wis. Stat. § 951](#). Shift commanders shall then notify ~~the Sensitive Crimes Division~~ the Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) at extension [REDACTED] in accordance with SOP 700 Case Management.
- E. Officers shall reference the *MADACC Law Enforcement Animal Intake Form* that is located in the N: drive Forms folder and contact MADACC prior to seizing an animal for an animal related crime or ordinance violation. If the officer seizes the animal after contacting MADACC, he/she shall complete the *MADACC Police Request for Services* form. The officer shall provide their department email address and work location phone number so MADACC can contact the officer if necessary.



JEFFREY B. NORMAN  
CHIEF OF POLICE